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EXAMINER

ONUAKU, CHRISTOPHER O

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2615

DATE MAILED: 02/02/2004

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/355,690

Applicant(s)
Kurano et al

Examiner
Christopher O. Onuaku

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2615



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Nov 6, 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-113 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) 1-25 and 74-80 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 27, 37, 46, 50-73, and 81-113 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 26, 28, 35, 36, 38, 44, and 45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 29-34, 39-43, and 47-49 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction Response

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Species VII, Fig.18-20 (Claims 26-73&81-113) in Paper No. 6 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for the purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 26,28,35,36,38,44&45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wine (US 6,434,319).

Regarding claim 26, Wine discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing

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system, comprising a recorder/reproducer for recording/reproducing a digital video and audio coded signal of a predetermined format onto and from a recording medium in units of a predetermined recording packet, in which of the digital video and audio coded signal, a codeword of a direct current component of each of small blocks constituting a frame is present in a fixed position in the recording packet, wherein an end-of-block representing that the codeword of the small block is discontinued hereinafter at the code is disposed in an area to which the codeword of the small block is assigned, a part of the area to which the codeword of the small block is assigned, which part is behind the end-of-block code is set as a general-purpose data recording area, and the input data is assigned to the general-purpose data recording area (see Fig.7,8&9; col.33 to col.8, line 13).

Regarding claim 28, Wine discloses wherein the end-of-block code is disposed immediately behind the codeword of the direct current component of the small block (see Fig.9; col.7, lines 40-67).

Regarding claim 35, Wine discloses wherein data input as one file is recorded on a continuous track (see Fig.9 and GOP1-GOP5; col.7, lines 40-48).

Regarding claim 36, the claimed limitations of claim 36 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 26 above.

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Regarding claim 38, the claimed limitations of claim 38 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 28 above.

Regarding claim 44, the claimed limitations of claim 44 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 35 above.

Regarding claim 45, the claimed limitations of claim 45 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 26 above.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 27,37,46,50-73&81-113 are allowable over the prior art of record.
5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 27, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

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The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a recorder/reproducer for recording and reproducing a digital video and audio coded signal, where the recorder/reproducer comprises wherein a part of the area to which the codeword of the small block is assigned, which part is behind an end-of-block code, an area where the class information is recorded and an area where the motion information is recorded are set as a general-purpose data recording area, and the input data is assigned to the general-purpose data recording area.

Regarding claim 37, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

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However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a converting method for converting input data into a format of a digital video and audio coded signal, where the method comprises wherein a part of the area where a codeword of the small block is disposed, which part is behind an end-of-block code, an area where the class information is recorded and an area where the motion information is recorded are set as a general-purpose data disposition area, and the data is disposed in the general-purpose data disposition area and converted.

Regarding claim 46, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a converting method using as an input signal a digital video and audio coded signal, where the method comprises wherein a part of an area where the codeword of the small block of the input signal is disposed, which part is behind an end-of-block code, an area where the class information is recorded and an area where the motion

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information is recorded are set as a general-purpose data area, and data is output from the general-purpose data areas.

Regarding claim 50, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a recorder/reproducer for recording and reproducing a digital video and audio coded signal of a predetermined format, where the recorder/reproducer comprises wherein an end-of-block code is disposed in an area to which the codeword of each small block in a predetermined track is assigned, a part of the area to which the codeword of the small block is assigned, which part is behind the end-of-block code, is set as a file management information recording area, and file management information which is information on files recorded in a recording medium is assigned to the file management information recording area.

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Regarding claim 51, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a recorder/reproducer for recording and reproducing a digital video and audio coded signal of a predetermined format, where the recorder/reproducer comprises wherein a part of the area to which a codeword of the small block is assigned, which part is behind an end-of-block code, an area where the class information is recorded and an area where the motion information is recorded are set as a file management information recording area, and file management information is assigned to the file management information recording area.

Regarding claim 68, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a

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recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a converting method for converting input data into a format of a digital video and audio coded signal, where the method comprises wherein an end-of-block code is added in an area where a codeword of each small block is disposed, a part of the area where the codeword of the small block is disposed, which part is behind the end-of-block code is set as a file management information recording area, and conversion is performed with file management information on the data being disposed in the file management information area.

Regarding claim 69, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for convert
Regarding claim 68, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

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The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a converting method for converting input data into a format of a digital video and audio coded signal, where the method comprises wherein a part of the area where a codeword of the small block is disposed, which part is behind an end-of-block code, an area where the class information is recorded and an area where the motion information is recorded are set as a file management information area, and the conversion is performed with file management information on the area being disposed in the file management information area.

Regarding claim 72, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for convert
Regarding claim 68, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

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However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a converting method using as an input a digital video and audio coded signal, where the method comprises wherein file management information is output from a part of an area where the codeword of the small block of the input signal is disposed, which part is behind an end-of-block code.

Regarding claim 73, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for convert
Regarding claim 68, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a converting method using as an input a digital video and audio coded signal, where the method comprises wherein file management information is output from a part of an area where a codeword of the small block of the input signal is disposed, which part is behind an end-of-block code, an area in which the class information is recorded and an area in which motion information is recorded.

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6. Claims 29-34,39-43&47-49 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: .

Regarding claim 29, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a recorder/reproducer for recording and reproducing a digital video and audio coded signal, where the recorder/reproducer comprises wherein a part in a predetermined recording packet, which part is behind the end-of-block code of each small block is set as an added information recording area, a part in the remaining recording packets, which part is behind the end-of-block code of each small block is set as the general-purpose data recording area, the input data is recorded in the general-purpose recording

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area, and added information which is information on the input data is recorded in the added information recording area.

Regarding claim 31, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a recorder/reproducer for recording and reproducing a digital video and audio coded signal, where the recorder/reproducer comprises wherein when the input data is a digital video and audio coded signal of a predetermined format, the input data is recorded as it is, and when the input data is other than the digital video and audio coded signal of the predetermined format, the input data is assigned to the general-purpose data recording area.

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Regarding claim 33, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a recorder/reproducer for recording and reproducing a digital video and audio coded signal, where the recorder/reproducer comprises wherein in-track data amount information representative of an amount of data actually recorded on each track is recorded in a predetermined position in each track.

Regarding claim 34, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

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The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a recorder/reproducer for recording and reproducing a digital video and audio coded signal, where the recorder/reproducer comprises wherein recording is performed after the data in the general-purpose data recording area in a track is all invalidated, and invalid track information representing that the data in the general-purpose data recording area in the track is all invalid is recorded in a predetermined position in the track.

Regarding claim 39, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for convert
Regarding claim 68, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

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However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a converting method using as an input a digital video and audio coded signal, where the method comprises wherein conversion is performed so that the input data is disposed in the general-purpose data recording area of a predetermined recording packet and added information which is information on the data is disposed in the general-purpose data recording areas of the other recording packets.

Regarding claim 40, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for convert
Regarding claim 68, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a converting method using as an input a digital video and audio coded signal, where the method comprises wherein when the input data is a digital video and audio coded signal of a predetermined format, the input data is output as it is, and when the input data is other than the digital video and audio coded signal of the

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predetermined format, the input data is disposed in the general-purpose recording area and converted.

Regarding claim 42, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a converting method, where the method comprises wherein conversion is performed with in-track data amount information representative of an amount of data actually assigned to each track being added so as to be disposed in a predetermined position in each track.

Regarding claim 43, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a

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recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a converting method, where the method comprises wherein data disposed so that data in the general-purpose data recording area in each track is all invalid is generated, and conversion is performed with invalid track information representing that the data in the general-purpose data recording area in each track is all invalid being added so as to be disposed in a predetermined position in each track

Regarding claim 47, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for convert
Regarding claim 68, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

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The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a converting method using as an input a digital video and audio coded signal, where the method comprises wherein a data-type-specific code is detected from the input signal, and when the data-type-specific code represents that a digital video and audio coded signal of a predetermined format is recorded, the input signal is output, and when the data-type-specific code represents that data other than the digital video and audio coded signal of the predetermined format is recorded, data is output from the general-purpose data area.

Regarding claim 48, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for convert
Regarding claim 68, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

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However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a converting method using as an input a digital video and audio coded signal, where the method comprises wherein in-track data amount information of each track of the input signal is obtained, and only data of an amount represented by the in-track data amount information is output from the general-purpose data recording area in each track of the digital video and audio coded signal.

Regarding claim 49, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for convert
Regarding claim 68, the invention relates to a data processing system/method for converting data when image and audio (sound) digital system data is input to a computer, and converting data when data input to a computer is output to an external device, a recorder/reproducer for recording digital data such as images, sounds and computer data on a recording medium such as magnetic tape, and a managing method for managing recorded digital data as files.

The closest reference, Wine (US 6,434,319), discloses the field of digital video signal processing, including processing a digital high definition television signal by a digital video tape recording/reproducing system.

However Wine fails to explicitly disclose a converting method using as an input a digital video and audio coded signal, where the method comprises wherein invalid track information of each track of the input signal is searched for, and no data is output as effective data from the general-purpose data recording area of a track where the invalid track information is detected.

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Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. De With et al (US 5,970,207) teach a television system for transmitting pictures in a digital form, including a coding station and a decoding station for such as a television system, and a picture signal which represents the transmitted pictures, a storage medium on which the picture signal is stored.

Lee (US 5,995,707) teaches a speed change reproduction recording apparatus for a video cassette tape recorder of a digital high definition television, a method thereof capable of achieving a better resolution of picture during a speed change reproduction operation by separating a normal reproduction data and a speed change reproduction data from a digital HDTV signal, storing the separated speed change reproduction data into a plurality of frame buffers, and alternately recording the speed change reproduction data outputted from the frame buffers on a corresponding track.

Azadegan (US 5,550,643) teaches high rate methods/systems for recording and playback of digital video signals, including a method/system for recording/playing back digital video signals on a video recorder such that an acceptable image is provided during any one of a plurality of trick mode speeds.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from this examiner should be directed to Christopher Onuaku whose telephone number is (703) 308-7555.

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The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Thursday from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Monday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen, can be reached on (703) 308-9644.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314, (for formal communications intended for entry)

and (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to Customer Service whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

1600
COO

1/22/04

[Signature]
THAI TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER